IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

BRANSTROM et al.

Appln. No. 08/711,961

Filed: September 6, 1996

Title: BACTERIAL DELIVERY SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: J. Railey

January 19, 2000

RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action issued July 19, 1999, please consider the Rule 131 Declaration filed herewith and the following remarks, the time to respond having been extended up to and including January 19 2000 by petition and fee submitted herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 45-55 are under examination. Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 45-55 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-17 of U.S. Pat. No. 5,824,538. Upon indication from the Examiner that the pending claims are otherwise in condition for allowance, Applicants will file a terminal disclaimer.

Claims 45-55 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as

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